

# The Brethren Evangelist

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This paper maintains that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the only and ultimate sources of appeal in matters of faith and practice.

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## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write with pen and ink, and on one side of the paper only.
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## Brevities

A monster sewing machine, weighing three tons and a quarter, is in use in Leeds. It sews leather belting.

By the end of the year coal will not be used on any of the locomotives in the State of California. All the engines are being now converted into oil-burners.

The oldest public building in New York is St. Paul's Chapel, at the corner of Broadway and Fulton street. It was built in 1766, 10 years before the Declaration of Independence.

A few of the larger public libraries in the country have added music to their circulation departments, and with marked success. The idea is spreading now to the libraries in the smaller cities.

Only two rulers of Russia since Peter the Great have died a natural death—Catharine II and Alexander III, the father of the present czar.

Only a handful of books attain to a fifth edition in any one year. Yet the British Bible Society prints five tons of Bibles every day. Even for purposes of numerical comparison, the word of God is yet supreme.

The Salvation Army has a department in the United States, the business of which is to find lost and missing friends.

Ants are credited with an instinct for the weather of a whole season. When they are observed at midsummer enlarging and building up their dwellings it is said to be a sign of an early and cold winter.

In 1845 the postage on a letter from New York to Wisconsin was 25 cents. People wrote long letters in those days in a fine copper-plate hand on thin paper—to get the worth of their money—but they wrote seldom.

A Baltimore court has confiscated to the State the skins of 2,500 seagulls killed in violation of the law. The skins were intended to adorn women's hats.

The late Charles Dudley Warner was the one honorary Vice President of the Egypt exploration fund, the American branch of which has its office in Boston, with Rev. William C. Winslow as Vice President and Honorary Secretary. Mr. Warner took much practical interest in the explorations.

## BRETHREN EVANGELIST

The telegraph from the African coast to Lake Victoria Nyanza has been completed, and according to the Electrical Engineer, London, it will be of great advantage to inhabitants of Lower Egypt.

Fine kid is treated with a mixture of fine flour and yolks of eggs. One factory in London uses 10 sacks of flour and 2,000 eggs a week for the purpose.

Fifty years ago news from Europe reached America in two weeks. Now it comes in two minutes.

In a recently discovered Roman tomb the skeleton of a woman was found which had a complete set of false teeth, beautifully wrought in pure gold.

A novelty just placed on the English market is a watertight watch which is particularly designed for soldiers and others exposed to hard service. The back is screwed on and the stem-winding apparatus is protected by a screw top. One of these timepieces has been running for months, and has kept perfect time, submerged in a jar of water in a London window.

The telescope, so far from being, as is generally averred, the outcome of the famous experiment of Galileo, was known at least 800 years before his time; while the microscope certainly dates from the early part of the ninth century, altho greatly improved in the sixteenth by Jansen and others.

According to the best and most recent calculations 100,000,000 tons of water pour over Niagara every hour. This represents 16,000,000 horse power. The total coal production of the world, either daily, weekly, monthly or yearly, would not furnish steam sufficient to pump it back again.

Professor Simon Newcomb, writing of stars which are so distant that they have no measurable parallax, remarks that one of these, the brilliant Canopus, can be said, with confidence, to be thousands of times brighter than the sun. "Whether we should say 20,000, 10,000 or 5,000, no one can decide." The first magnitude stars, Rigel and Spica, also are at an immeasurable distance, and must, in view of their actual brightness, enormously outshine the sun.

## Our Cream Pitcher

Charles H. Spurgeon

Christ is the great central fact in the world's history; to Him everything looks forward or backward. All the lines of history converge upon Him. All the march of Providence is guarded by Him. All the great purposes of God culminate in Him. The greatest and most momentous fact which the history of the world recalls, is the fact of His birth.

J. R. Miller

We can be truest and best blessings to others only when we live victoriously ourselves. We owe it, therefore, to the needy, sorrowing, tempted world about us to keep our inner life calm, quiet, strong, restful, and full of sweet love, in whatsoever outer turbulence, trial, or opposition we must live. The one secret is to abide in Christ.

A. T. Pierson

In a fable of the Magic Skin, it gave the wearer power to get anything he wanted, but every time he gratified his wishes, the skin shrank and compressed him into smaller dimensions until, by and by, with the last wish, life itself was crushed out. The magic skin is selfishness. It is a great thing to learn to say "No" to one's self, instead of indulging every whim and wish, even tho there be nothing sinful in it. There was no necessary wrong to Moses in his inheriting the royal treasures and enjoying the pleasures of Egypt, so far as they were not in themselves sinful; but Moses had a high vocation, and these would have been hindrances; so he renounced them.

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## In His Steps

The soul of man is now like a ruined tower, and awaits the restoring touch of the original Architect. It is like a disarranged piece of music, and only the great Harmonizer can bring harmony out of its tangles. It is like a wilted plant, but the divine Gardener can refresh its roots and renew its vigor. All this is implied in the Psalmist's glad confession, "He restoreth my soul." All about us are these ruined souls. What is emphatically needed is the more general preaching and living of the Gospel of the Restoration.

Henry Dummond

This is how men get to know God by doing His will. And there is no other way. And this is how men become like God; how God's character becomes written upon men's characters. Acts react upon souls. Good acts make good men; just acts, just men; kind acts, kind men; divine acts, divine men. And there is no other way of becoming good, just, kind, divine. And there is no Heaven for those who have not become these. For these are Heaven.

Owen Feltham

Of all trees, I observe, God hath chosen the vine, a low plant that creeps upon the helpful wall; of all beasts, the soft and patient lamb; of all fowls, the mild and guileless dove. . . . When God appeared to Moses it was not in the lofty cedar, nor the sturdy oak, nor the spreading plain, but in a bush—a humble, slender, abject shrub; as if he would by these elections check the conceited arrogance of man.

Robert E. Speen

There are three grades of Christian life: There is, first of all, the dissatisfied life, the life that knows there is something it does not have and that wants it, and that is perpetually discontented, and rightly so, with itself. There is, secondly, the life that is half and half, that now and then rises up to the Mount of Transfiguration and then paces for long seasons over weary wastes of whitened ashes. There is a third life of satisfaction and content and peace and power and rest, the life that has made Jesus Christ its one object, the life that every man lives who is able to say in the fine phrase of Ignatius, O Christ, thou art "my inseparable life." The soul that has made Christ its one object has entered into rest and has entered into power; it has entered into a life of activity which no foe can withstand, and of contentment which no storm can ruffle; for over all the seas where it voyages speaks that voice which quieted the turbulent waves of Gennesaret, "Peace, be still." Nothing can overcome or disturb the soul that is hid with Christ in God and has made Christ the one object of its life and found the Father in Him.

A man (?) in this town who has been drinking for a number of years, and of whom it is said that the last two years he has not been sober one day at a time, the other day became so unruly that his wife could no longer control him and the authorities were compelled to lock him up. As he imagined, snakes of all kinds, rats, cats, and mice were after him, and what made it worse, while in jail, he thought the walls of the prison were falling on him. They were awful nights he spent in that dark dungeon, and yet even this example of the terrible work of liquor is not a lesson sufficient to lead the young people to leave the "stuff" alone. "People who do not know when to quit should not drink," remarked one speaking of the above case. No one knows when to quit except the man who never drinks. He may and he may not be able to drink moderately and quit at will. The trouble is strong drink gets control of the most indomitable will ever possessed by any one, and he who, in the face of the terrible wreck liquor has made of the best and strongest minds, continues to trifle with it, is, to say the least, not wise. The only protection from the havoc of whisky is to let it absolutely alone.